

insurance coverage from negotiating the level and type of reimbursement with a provider for care provided in accordance with this section.

“(c) EXEMPTIONS.—

“(1) SMALL EMPLOYER EXEMPTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—This section shall not apply to any group health plan (and group health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan) for any plan year of a small employer.

“(B) SMALL EMPLOYER.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘small employer’ means, in connection with a group health plan with respect to a calendar year and a plan year, an employer who employed an average of at least 2 but not more than 50 employees on business days during the preceding calendar year and who employs at least 2 employees on the first day of the plan year.

“(C) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN RULES IN DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYER SIZE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) APPLICATION OF AGGREGATION RULE FOR EMPLOYERS.—Rules similar to the rules under subsections (b), (c), (m), and (o) of section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall apply for purposes of treating persons as a single employer.

“(ii) EMPLOYERS NOT IN EXISTENCE IN PRECEDING YEAR.—In the case of an employer which was not in existence throughout the preceding calendar year, the determination of whether such employer is a small employer shall be based on the average number of employees that it is reasonably expected such employer will employ on business days in the current calendar year.

“(iii) PREDECESSORS.—Any reference in this paragraph to an employer shall include a reference to any predecessor of such employer.

“(2) INCREASED COST EXEMPTION.—This section shall not apply with respect to a group health plan (or health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan) if the application of this section to such plan (or to such coverage) results in an increase in the cost under the plan (or for such coverage) of at least 1 percent.

“(d) SEPARATE APPLICATION TO EACH OPTION OFFERED.—In the case of a group health plan that offers a participant or beneficiary 2 or more benefit package options under the plan, the requirements of this section shall be applied separately with respect to each such option.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

“(1) TREATMENT LIMITATION.—The term ‘treatment limitation’ means, with respect to benefits under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, any day or visit limits imposed on coverage of benefits under the plan or coverage during a period of time.

“(2) FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT.—The term ‘financial requirement’ means, with respect to benefits under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, any deductible, coinsurance, or cost-sharing or an annual or lifetime dollar limit imposed with respect to the benefits under the plan or coverage.

“(3) MEDICAL OR SURGICAL BENEFITS.—The term ‘medical or surgical benefits’ means benefits with respect to medical or surgical services, as defined under the terms of the plan or coverage (as the case may be), but does not include substance abuse treatment benefits.

“(4) SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT BENEFITS.—The term ‘substance abuse treatment benefits’ means benefits with respect to substance abuse treatment services.

“(5) SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES.—The term ‘substance abuse treatment services’ means any of the following items

and services provided for the treatment of substance abuse:

“(A) Inpatient treatment, including detoxification.

“(B) Nonhospital residential treatment.

“(C) Outpatient treatment, including screening and assessment, medication management, individual, group, and family counseling, and relapse prevention.

“(D) Prevention services, including health education and individual and group counseling to encourage the reduction of risk factors for substance abuse.

“(6) SUBSTANCE ABUSE.—The term ‘substance abuse’ includes chemical dependency.

“(f) NOTICE UNDER GROUP HEALTH PLAN.—The imposition of the requirements of this section shall be treated as a material modification in the terms of the plan described in section 102(a), for purposes of assuring notice of such requirements under the plan; except that the summary description required to be provided under section 104(b)(1) with respect to such modification shall be provided by not later than 60 days after the first day of the first plan year in which such requirements apply.”

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(i) Section 731(c) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1191(c)) is amended by striking “section 711” and inserting “sections 711 and 714”.

(ii) Section 732(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1191a(a)) is amended by striking “section 711” and inserting “sections 711 and 714”.

(iii) The table of contents in section 1 of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 713 the following new item:

“714. Parity in the application of treatment limitations and financial requirements to substance abuse treatment benefits”.

(3) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AMENDMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter 100 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to other requirements) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 9813. PARITY IN THE APPLICATION OF TREATMENT LIMITATIONS AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT BENEFITS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a group health plan that provides both medical and surgical benefits and substance abuse treatment benefits, the plan shall not impose treatment limitations or financial requirements on the substance abuse treatment benefits unless similar limitations or requirements are imposed for medical and surgical benefits.

“(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed—

“(1) as requiring a group health plan to provide any substance abuse treatment benefits; or

“(2) to prevent a group health plan from negotiating the level and type of reimbursement with a provider for care provided in accordance with this section.

“(c) EXEMPTIONS.—

“(1) SMALL EMPLOYER EXEMPTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—This section shall not apply to any group health plan for any plan year of a small employer.

“(B) SMALL EMPLOYER.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘small employer’ means, in connection with a group health plan with respect to a calendar year and a plan year, an employer who employed an average of at least 2 but not more than 50 employees on business days during the preceding calendar year and who employs at least 2 employees on the first day of the plan year.

“(C) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN RULES IN DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYER SIZE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) APPLICATION OF AGGREGATION RULE FOR EMPLOYERS.—Rules similar to the rules under subsections (b), (c), (m), and (o) of section 414 shall apply for purposes of treating persons as a single employer.

“(ii) EMPLOYERS NOT IN EXISTENCE IN PRECEDING YEAR.—In the case of an employer which was not in existence throughout the preceding calendar year, the determination of whether such employer is a small employer shall be based on the average number of employees that it is reasonably expected such employer will employ on business days in the current calendar year.

“(iii) PREDECESSORS.—Any reference in this paragraph to an employer shall include a reference to any predecessor of such employer.

“(2) INCREASED COST EXEMPTION.—This section shall not apply with respect to a group health plan if the application of this section to such plan results in an increase in the cost under the plan of at least 1 percent.

“(d) SEPARATE APPLICATION TO EACH OPTION OFFERED.—In the case of a group health plan that offers a participant or beneficiary 2 or more benefit package options under the plan, the requirements of this section shall be applied separately with respect to each such option.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

“(1) TREATMENT LIMITATION.—The term ‘treatment limitation’ means, with respect to benefits under a group health plan, any day or visit limits imposed on coverage of benefits under the plan during a period of time.

“(2) FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT.—The term ‘financial requirement’ means, with respect to benefits under a group health plan, any deductible, coinsurance, or cost-sharing or an annual or lifetime dollar limit imposed with respect to the benefits under the plan.

“(3) MEDICAL OR SURGICAL BENEFITS.—The term ‘medical or surgical benefits’ means benefits with respect to medical or surgical services, as defined under the terms of the plan, but does not include substance abuse treatment benefits.

“(4) SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT BENEFITS.—The term ‘substance abuse treatment benefits’ means benefits with respect to substance abuse treatment services.

“(5) SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES.—The term ‘substance abuse treatment services’ means any of the following items and services provided for the treatment of substance abuse:

“(A) Inpatient treatment, including detoxification.

“(B) Nonhospital residential treatment.

“(C) Outpatient treatment, including screening and assessment, medication management, individual, group, and family counseling, and relapse prevention.

“(D) Prevention services, including health education and individual and group counseling to encourage the reduction of risk factors for substance abuse.

“(6) SUBSTANCE ABUSE.—The term ‘substance abuse’ includes chemical dependency.”

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(i) Section 4980D(d)(1) of such Code is amended by striking “section 9811” and inserting “sections 9811 and 9813”.

(ii) The table of sections of subchapter B of chapter 100 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“9813. Parity in the application of treatment limitations and financial requirements to substance abuse treatment benefits”.

(b) INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.—Part B of title XXVII of the